# **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
814 THEODORE LEVIN UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
231 W. LAFAYETTE BOULEVARD
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

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DIVISIONAL OFFICES ANN ARBOR BAY CITY FLINT PORT HURON

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL RULES

At its regular meeting on September 8, 2009, the Court approved for publication and comment proposed amendments to the following Local Rules:

- LR 5.1, Filing of Papers
- LR 5.2, Service of Non-Dispositive and Dispositive Orders; Stipulations and Orders
- LR 7.1, Motion Practice
- LR 58.1, Procedure for Entry of Judgments and Orders
- LR 72.1, United States Magistrate Judges
- LR 73.1, Special Designation to Exercise Civil Consent Jurisdiction
- LR 77.2, Presiding Judge
- LR 83.20, Attorney Admission
- LR 83.22, Attorney Discipline
- LR E.1, Actions in Rem and Quasi in Rem

In order to be assured consideration, comments in writing, which may include recommended changes to the proposed amendments, should be received by the Court not later than Friday, December 4, 2009. Comments may be sent to <a href="mailto:Local\_Rules@mied.uscourts.gov">Local\_Rules@mied.uscourts.gov</a> or Local Rules, 814 Theodore Levin United States Courthouse, 231 W. Lafayette Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

#### LR 5.1 Filing of Papers

- (a) General Format of Papers Presented for Filing. Under LR 5.1.1, unless specified otherwise in the ECF Policies and Procedures (Appendix ECF to these rules) or by court order, all papers must be filed electronically.
- (1) Required Information. All papers presented for filing must show include:
  - (A) the name of the court,
  - (B) the title and number of the case,
  - (C) the name or nature of the paper in sufficient detail for

identification,

- $(\underline{D})$  the name of the <u>district</u> judge and magistrate judge to whom the case is assigned, and
  - (E) the following contact information:
- (i) For an attorney: nN ame, office address, e-mail address, telephone number, and state bar identification number of the attorney.
- (ii) For a party without counsel: Name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number.
- **(2)** Format. All papers must be on 8 ½ x 11 inch white paper of good quality, and be plainly typewritten, printed, or prepared by a clearly legible duplication process, and double-spaced, except for quoted material and footnotes. Except for standard preprinted forms that are in general use, type size of all text and footnotes must be no smaller than 10 characters per inch (non-proportional) or 12 point (proportional). Margins must be at least one and one half inches on the top and one inch on the top, sides, and bottom. Each page must be numbered consecutively. This subsection does not apply to exhibits submitted for filing and documents filed in removed actions prior to before removal from the state courts.
- <u>Type Size.</u> Except for standard preprinted forms that are in general use, type size of all text and footnotes must be no smaller than 10 characters per inch (non-proportional) or 12 point (proportional).

### (b) Number of Copies Required for Filing.

- (1) Papers Filed Electronically. Attorneys and parties without counsel should refer to the Court's ECF Policies and Procedures and the Court's website to determine those papers that each judge requests be provided as a judge's copy.
- (2) <u>Papers Not Filed Electronically.</u> All papers <u>not</u> filed <u>electronically</u> with the clerk must include an original and one copy. The copy should be clearly marked "JUDGE'S COPY."
- (c) <u>Number of Copies Required for a Three-Judge Court.</u> In any action or proceeding in which a three-judge court is requested, parties <u>not filing electronically</u> must file an original and three copies of all papers until it is determined either that a three-judge court will not be convened or that the three-judge court has been convened and dissolved and the case remanded to a single judge. The parties may be permitted to file fewer copies by order of the court.

## (d) Exhibits.

- (1) Filed Electronically. Exhibits filed electronically must comply with the Court's ECF Policies and Procedures.
- (2) Not Filed Electronically. Bulky exhibits are to must be securely bound or fastened and clearly marked with the case number and the name of the judge to whom the case is assigned.

#### COMMENT:

LR 26.2 applies to filing discovery material.

LR 83.50 applies to filing papers in bankruptcy cases and proceedings.

Counsel and parties <u>not filing electronically</u> are advised that the handling and storage of documents are facilitated if they are received flat and without folds.

<u>Under LR 5.1.1, the Court may excuse a party from electronic filing on</u> motion for good cause shown.

Attempts to circumvent the LR in any way may be considered an abusive practice which may result in papers being stricken as well as sanctions being imposed under LR 11.1.

# LR 5.2 Service of Non-Dispositive and Dispositive Orders; Stipulations and Orders

- (a) Electronic Filing. The ECF Policies and Procedures (Appendix ECF to these rules) govern the filing and service of orders and proposed orders electronically.
- (a)(b) Service of Non-Dispositive Orders. Unless the court directs otherwise directed by the Court, the Clerk shall clerk will send the movant seeking a non-dispositive order a copy of the signed order signed by the judicial officer. Within 10 14 days of the date of the order, unless the judge directs otherwise directed by the judge in a particular case, the movant shall must serve, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5, copies of the order on all other parties and other persons entitled to service of the order and promptly file a proof of service.
- (b)(c) Stipulations and Orders; Service of Orders. The party person initiating a stipulation and proposing an order shall must submit a self-addressed

stamped envelope and shall be responsible for serving serve copies of the order on all other parties and other persons entitled to service of the order within  $\frac{10}{14}$  days of the date of the order, unless otherwise directed by the judge in a particular case directs otherwise. No proof of service is required.

- (c)(d) Service of Dispositive Orders. The preparer of a dispositive order, other than a stipulated order, shall must submit the proposed order to the Court court with an original, and a copy for the Court court, and sufficient copies and addressed, stamped envelopes for all parties and other persons entitled to service of the order in the case. The Clerk shall clerk will mail to the parties the order or judgment and provide a proof of service for the record of the Court.
- **(d)(e) Definition of Dispositive Order.** For purposes of this Rule, "dispositive order" means an order disposing of a motion for injunctive relief, for judgment on the pleadings, for summary judgment, to dismiss or quash an indictment or information made by a defendant, to suppress evidence in a criminal case, to certify or decertify a class, to dismiss for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, and to involuntarily dismiss an action, whether the order grants or denies the motion in whole or in part.

#### COMMENT:

In  $\frac{(a)}{(b)}$ , the movant is responsible for service even if the movant does not prevail, in whole or in part.

In  $\frac{b}{c}$ , the initiating <u>party person</u> carries the same burden as the movant in (a). No proof of service is necessary because the order follows a stipulation.

In (c)(d), the preparer includes the Court court. If the Court court prepares the dispositive order, then the Court court provides all documents, envelopes and postage for service. If the Court court directs a party person to prepare the final order, then that party person provides copies of the order, envelopes and postage for the Court court to complete service after the judicial officer signs the order.

#### LR 7.1 Motion Practice

## (a) Seeking Concurrence in Motions and Requests.

(1) The movant must ascertain whether the contemplated motion, or request under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 6(b)(1)(A), will be opposed. If the movant

obtains concurrence, the parties <u>or other persons involved</u> may make the subject matter of the contemplated motion or request a matter of record by stipulated order.

- (2) If concurrence is not obtained, the motion or request must state:
- (A) there was a conference between attorneys or unrepresented parties and other persons entitled to be heard on the motion in which the movant explained the nature of the motion or request and its legal basis and requested but did not obtain concurrence in the relief sought; or
- (B) despite reasonable efforts specified in the motion or request, the movant was unable to conduct a conference.
  - (3) The court may tax costs for unreasonable withholding of consent.

#### (b) Motions.

- (1) Motions must comply with LR 5.1.
- (2) No party may file more than one motion for summary judgment without obtaining leave of Court. Challenges to several counts of a complaint shall be brought in a single motion.

# (b)(c)Responses.

- (1) A respondent opposing a motion must file a response, including a brief and supporting documents then available.
  - (2) Responses must comply with LR 5.1.
- (3) No party may file more than one response to a motion for summary judgment without obtaining leave of court. Challenges to several arguments raised in a motion for summary judgment shall be brought in a single response.

## (c)(d)Briefs.

#### (1) Briefs Required and Permitted.

(A) <u>Unless the court permits otherwise, each Mmotions and responses</u> to a motions must be accompanied by a <u>single</u> brief. The brief may be separate from or may be contained within the motion <u>or response</u>. If contained within the motion <u>or response</u>, the brief must begin on a new page and must be clearly identified as the brief. A movant may also file a reply brief.

- (B) Briefs must comply with LR 5.1.
- **(2) Form of Required Briefs.** A brief supporting a motion or response must, at the beginning, contain a concise statement of the issues presented and, on the following page, the controlling or most appropriate authority for the relief sought. The brief may contain a table of contents, an index of authorities, and an index of exhibits attached to the brief.

#### (3) Length of Briefs.

- (A) The text of a brief supporting a motion or response, including footnotes and signatures, may not exceed 20 pages. A <u>party person</u> seeking to file a longer brief may apply *ex parte* in writing setting forth the reasons.
- (B) The text of a reply brief, including footnotes and signatures, may not exceed 5 pages.

# (d)(e)Briefing Schedule.

### (1) Dispositive Motions.

- (A) Dispositive motions are motions:
  - for injunctive relief,
  - for judgment on the pleadings,
  - for summary judgment,
  - to dismiss or quash an indictment or information made by a defendant,
  - to suppress evidence in a criminal case,
  - to certify or decertify a class,
  - to dismiss for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, and
  - to involuntarily dismiss an action.
- (B) A response to a dispositive motion must be filed within 21 days after service of the motion.
- (C) If filed, a reply brief supporting a dispositive motion must be filed within 7 days after service of the response, but not less than 3 days before oral argument.

# (2) Nondispositive Motions.

- (A) Nondispositive motions are motions not listed in LR  $7.1\frac{(d)}{(e)}(1)(A)$ .
- (B) A response to a nondispositive motion must be filed within 14 days after service of the motion.
- (C) If filed, a reply brief supporting a nondispositive motion must be filed within 7 days after service of the response, but not less than 3 days before oral argument.

## (e)(f)Hearing on Motions.

- (1) The court will not hold a hearing on a motion Oral hearings on motions for rehearing or reconsideration, motions a motion for reduction of sentence, and motions or a motion in a civil cases case where a party person is in custody will not be held unless ordered by the assigned the judge orders a hearing.
- (2) Oral hearings The court will hold a hearing on all other motions will be held unless the judge at any time prior to the hearing orders their submission and determination without oral hearing on the briefs filed as required by this rule.
- (3) The motion must be filed with the clerk, of the court who will forward it to the assigned judge. The judge will set or cause to be set a date for hearing, with notice of which will be given to the parties and other persons entitled to be heard on the motion. Inquiries regarding time of hearing may be directed to the judge's chambers.

## (f)(g)Additional Time to File Supporting Documents and Brief.

- (1) When it is indicated in a motion, response or written request states that the filing of additional affidavits or other documents in support or opposition is necessary, the assigned judge to whom the case is assigned may specify the time within which the additional documents and brief must be filed by:
- (A) enter entering an ex parte order (which must have been prepared by the party person making the request) specifying the time within which such additional documents and brief must be filed, or
  - (B) approve any approving a written stipulations in regard thereto stipulation.

- (2) A copy of an ex parte order so entered must immediately be served upon opposing counsel or a party without counsel. Counsel or a party without counsel obtaining such order must also immediately notify opposing counsel or a party without counsel personally or by telephone of the signing of the order. A person obtaining such an order must immediately:
- - (B) notify them personally or by telephone of the signing of the order.
- (3) A party person against whom an ex parte enlargement of time has been granted may immediately move for a dissolution of the order granting enlargement.

## (g)(h)Motions for Rehearing or Reconsideration.

- (1) **Time.** A motion for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed within 10 days after entry of the judgment or order.
- **(2) No Response and No Hearing Allowed.** No response to the motion and no oral argument are permitted unless the court orders otherwise.
- (3) **Grounds.** Generally, and without restricting the court's discretion, the court will not grant motions for rehearing or reconsideration that merely present the same issues ruled upon by the court, either expressly or by reasonable implication. The movant must not only demonstrate a palpable defect by which the court and the parties and other persons entitled to be heard on the motion have been misled but also show that correcting the defect will result in a different disposition of the case.

COMMENT: Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 6(b)(1)(A) permits a party person to seek an enlargement of time "with or without a motion or notice . . . if a request therefor is made before the period originally prescribed the original time or its extension expires. . . ." Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(b)(1). Although the court generally prefers that such relief be sought by stipulation or motion, if a party person chooses to seek relief by means of a "request," LR 7.1(a) requires contact with other parties and other persons entitled to be heard on the motion to seek concurrence in the relief requested. (12/1/05)

The 20-page limit under LR 7.1(c)(3)(A) will be strictly enforced by the Court. Attempts to circumvent the LR in any way may be considered an abusive practice which may result in the motion or response being stricken as well as sanctions being imposed under LR 11.1.

The following LR's also apply to specific types of motions:

- 1) LR 15.1, Form of a Motion to Amend and Its Supporting Documentation
- 2) LR 37.1, Motion to Compel Discovery
- 3) LR 37.2, Form of Discovery Motions
- 4) LR 54.2, Social Security Fee Motions
- 5) LR 59.1, Motion to Alter or Amend a Judgment
- 6) LR 65.1, Motions for Temporary Restraining Orders and for Preliminary Injunctions
- 7) LR 83.50, Bankruptcy Cases and Proceedings

Stylistic amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure took effect on December 1, 2007. Pursuant to those amendments, the reference to Fed.R.Civ.P. 6(b)(1) in LR 7.1(a)(1) was changed to Fed.R.Civ.P. 6(b)(1)(A). (6/2/08)

## LR 58.1 Procedure for Entry of Judgments and Orders

An <u>The court may enter a order or judgment or order shall be entered</u> by one of the following methods:

- (a) The Court may sign the judgment or order at or after the time it grants the relief provided by in the judgment or order.
- (b) The Court shall court will sign the judgment or order when the parties and any other person entitled to be heard on entry of the judgment or order approve its form is approved by all the parties.
- (c) Within seven days after the granting of the judgment or order, or later if the Court court allows, a party person seeking entry of a judgment or order may serve a copy of the proposed judgment or order on the other parties and any other person entitled to be heard on entry of the judgment or order, with a notice to them that it will be submitted to the Court court for signing if no written objections are filed within seven days after service of the notice. The party person seeking entry of the judgment or order must file the original and proof of service with the Court court the original of the proposed judgment or order and proof of its service on the other parties.
- (1) If no written objections are filed within seven days, the Court shall court will then sign the judgment or order if, in the Court's court's determination, it comports with the Court's court's decision. If the proposed judgment or order does not comport with the decision, the Court shall court will notify the parties and any other person

entitled to be heard on entry of the judgment or order to appear before the Court court on a specified date for settlement of the matter; or, in the Court's court's discretion, the Court court may enter its own order consistent with the Court's court's decision.

- (2) The party A person filing the objections must serve them on all parties and other persons entitled to be heard on entry of the judgment or order.
- (3) If objections are filed, within seven days after receiving notice of the objections, the party person who proposed the judgment or order must notice it for settlement before the court.
- (d) A party person seeking entry of a judgment or order may prepare a proposed judgment or order and notice it for settlement before the Court court.

COMMENT: Pursuant to the Statutory Time-Periods Technical Amendments Act of 2009, effective December 1, 2009, the counting of seven days under this rule does include Saturdays and Sundays.

# LR 72.1 United States Magistrate Judges

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# (d) Review and Appeal

- (1) Objections under Fed. R. Civ. P. 72 must:
- (A) specify the part of the order, proposed findings, recommendations, or report to which the party a person objects; and
  - (B) state the basis for the objection.
- (2) A party person serving objections permitted by Fed.R.Civ.P. 72 must serve them on the magistrate judge and all parties and other persons entitled to be heard on the matter with objections permitted by Fed. R. Civ. P. 72.
  - (3) A party person may respond to objections within 10 14 days of service.
- (4) A party person may file a reply brief within  $\frac{5}{2}$  days of service of a response.
  - (5) LR 7.1 governs the form of objections, responses, and replies.

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#### **COMMENT:**

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Effective December 1, 2009, the time to file objections under Fed. R. Civ. P. 72 will change from 10 days to 14 days.

### LR 73.1 Special Designation to Exercise Civil Consent Authority

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(c) Execution of Consent. If all of the parties in a civil case consent to have the magistrate judge exercise the authority described in (a), the plaintiff or plaintiff's counsel must file with the clerk the form described in (b), signed by all parties or their attorneys. The clerk will not accept the form without all such signatures, and neither the form nor its contents may be made known or available to a district judge or magistrate judge if it lacks any signatures required under this LR. A party's decision regarding consent will not be communicated to a district judge or magistrate judge before a fully-executed form is filed. Consent in a civil case under (a) may be entered until 30 28 days before scheduled trial of the case unless otherwise ordered by the district judge.

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(e) Party Added After Consent Occurs. A party added to a civil case after reference of the case to a magistrate judge on consent will be given an opportunity to consent to the continued exercise of case-dispositive authority by the magistrate judge. The clerk will give the party a copy of the form described in (b). A party choosing to consent must, within  $\frac{30}{28}$  days of appearance, file with the clerk the form signed by the party or attorney. The case will be returned to the district judge for all further proceedings unless a form is properly signed and filed.

**COMMENT:** Review of matters referred under LR 73.1 is in the court of appeals. Review of matters referred under LR 72.1 is by the district judge.

# LR 77.2 Presiding Judge

- (a) Presiding Judge Calendar (Detroit). The presiding judge calendar is compiled by the Chief Judge and is based on the availability of each district judge (including senior judges who consent) in Detroit. The presiding judge normally acts for designated one-week periods. The identity of the presiding judge may not be disclosed before Monday at 8:30 a.m.
- **(b) Role of Presiding Judge.** The presiding judge may act in the absence or unavailability of the <u>assigned</u> judge to whom a case or matter has been assigned. Since judges often make specific arrangements with other judges to act if they are absent or unavailable, counsel or a <u>party person</u> without counsel should always contact the chambers of the assigned judge. If it appears that no such arrangements have been made, counsel or a <u>party person</u> without counsel may contact the presiding judge. The first presiding judge to act for the assigned judge concerning any case or matter will hear all other issues arising in the case or matter in the absence or unavailability of the assigned judge. Unless other arrangements have been made, the presiding judge normally presides over naturalization ceremonies.
- **(c) Judge Absent or Unavailable.** The presiding judge will be present in the Courthouse courthouse during business hours through the week assigned as presiding judge. If the presiding judge is absent or unavailable, counsel or a party person without counsel should contact the Clerk's Office clerk's office to determine if arrangements have been made for another judge to act as presiding judge. If it appears that no such arrangements have been made, the Clerk's Office clerk's office will contact judges, beginning with the most senior district judge in Detroit (including senior judges who consent), until an available judge is found to act as presiding judge.

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#### COMMENT:

The role of presiding judge when an appeal of a magistrate judge's decision in a preliminary criminal proceeding which has not been assigned to a district judge is defined in LCrR 57.2.

The role of presiding judge in determining whether exigent circumstances exist in proceedings commenced by attachment and garnishment and actions in rem is defined in LR B.1.

The designated period referred to in LR 77.2(a) begins at 8:30 a.m. on Monday and ends at 8:30 a.m. on the following Monday.

#### LR 83.20 Attorney Admission

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#### (c) Eligibility for Admission.

(1) A person who is admitted to practice in a court of record in a state, territory, commonwealth, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or a United States District Court and who is in good standing is eligible for admission to the bar of this court, except as provided in (c)(2). *Pro hac vice* admission is not permitted.

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### (d) Procedure for Admission.

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(2) A sponsor who is a member of the bar of this court must sign a declaration supporting the application for admission. The sponsor must declare that the applicant is of good character and reputation and is qualified to practice as a member of the bar of this court. An applicant for admission to the bar of this court must submit an original certificate of good standing issued within the last 60 - 90 days from a court of record identified in (c)(1).

#### LR 83.22 Attorney Discipline

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#### (e) Discipline by Court After Hearing.

- (3) **Response.** The respondent must respond to the order to show cause within  $\frac{20}{21}$  days from entry of the order. The response must -
  - (A) specifically admit or deny each factual allegation in the order and,
- **(B)** state specific facts on which the respondent relies, including all other material dates, places, persons and conduct, and all documents or other supporting evidence not previously filed with the order that are relevant to the charges

of misconduct.

(4) Notice of the Hearing. The court must give the respondent  $\frac{20}{21}$  days written notice of the date and location of the hearing and notice of the respondent's rights under LR 83.22(e)(6)(B).

- (8) Required Notice on Suspension or Disbarment. Within  $7 \underline{14}$  days after service of an order suspending or disbarring an attorney under LR 83.22(e)(6)(H), the respondent must:
  - (A) Send a copy of the order to:
    - (i) the Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission,
- (ii) the licensing authority of any other state in which the respondent is licensed to practice law, and
- (iii) the clerk of every other federal court in which the respondent is admitted to practice.
- (B) Notify each client of the respondent in matters that the disciplinary action may affect of the following:
  - (i) the nature and duration of the discipline;
  - (ii) the effective date of the discipline;
- (iii) the attorney's inability to act as an attorney in this court after the effective date of the discipline;
- (iv) the location and identity of the custodian of the client's files and records, which will be made available to the client or to substitute counsel;
- (v) that the client may wish to seek legal advice and counsel elsewhere, but, if the attorney was a member of a law firm, the firm may continue to represent the client with the client's express written consent; and
- (vi) the address to which all correspondence to the attorney may be addressed.

- (C) In every matter in which the respondent is representing a client in litigation affected by the disciplinary action, send a copy of the order of discipline to all parties and other persons entitled to notice of matters in the litigation.
- **(9) Affidavit of Compliance.** Within 14 days after service of an order suspending or disbarring an attorney under LR 83.22(e)(6)(H), the respondent must file an affidavit with the clerk certifying compliance with LR 83.22(e)(8). The affidavit must include as an appendix copies of the disclosure notices required under LR 83.22(e)(8).

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# (g) Discipline by Other Jurisdictions.

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## (2) Application to Modify Reciprocal Discipline.

(A) Within  $\frac{30}{28}$  days after the effective date of the order of discipline in this court, the attorney may apply to the chief judge for modification or vacation of the discipline.

\* \* \*

# (i) Reinstatement.

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(5) In addition to payment of the attorney renewal fee, the court may condition reinstatement on--

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(B) partial or complete restitution to the <u>parties</u> <u>persons</u> harmed by the misconduct that led to disbarment or suspension.

# LR E.1 Actions in Rem and Quasi in Rem

- (a) Advance Deposit for Cost. The United States Marshal shall collect in advance of the arrest, attachment or garnishment only that amount sufficient to cover the cost of service or process, United States Marshal's insurance and 10 days' keeper and maintenance fees. If the plaintiff is represented by an attorney duly authorized to practice in this District, then the advance deposit for cost may be satisfied by tendering to the United States Marshal a check from the attorney or attorney's firm in the amount of the required deposit. The United States Marshal shall not deliver any property so released until costs and charges of the Court have been paid.
- Custody and Operation of Seized Vessels. Upon On seizure of a vessel by (b) arrest or attachment, the Marshal shall marshal must appoint as custodian of the vessel the master or other officer in control of the vessel if the master or such other officer shall accept accepts the responsibilities and liabilities incidental to such of the appointment. Absent such acceptance, the Marshal shall marshal must make such other satisfactory arrangements for the safekeeping of the vessel as shall be satisfactory to the Marshal. The Marshal marshal in either event may require the party at whose instance the vessel was seized to pay any the fees and costs as incurred. Upon proper On motion of the plaintiff or of any other another person claiming an interest in the vessel, the Court court may appoint a different custodian. in which In that event the person at whose instance the appointment was made must pay the fees and costs thereof shall be paid as incurred by the party at whose instance such appointment was made. Unless restriction thereof of the vessel is deemed necessary for the its safekeeping of any vessel seized by the Marshal, the loading or discharging of its cargo or other normal working of the vessel shall not be impeded. The Marshal marshal may permit the vessel to be moved from berth to berth within any one a marine terminal or to a local anchorage within the <del>District</del> district without further court order of the Court.